REDESIGN
Transforming Food Value Systems

TRANSFORMATIVE LOOP METHODOLOGY: GUIDANCE FOR APPLICATION

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Deliverable number: 2.3
Date: 29.08.2025

Document identifier D.1
Version 01
Dissemination level: PU

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OEI – Requirement No. 1

Grant Agreement nº	10118226
Project acronym	REDESIGN
Project title	tRansformativE fooD valuE Systems reshapInG resilient urban laNdscapes
Call	HORIZON-CL6-2024-COMMUNITIES-01
Topic	HORIZON-CL6-2024-COMMUNITIES-01-1 - Unlock the potential of the New European Bauhaus in urban food system transformation
Project Duration	01/02/2025 – 31/01/2028
Coordinator	Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna (*UNIBO*)
Beneficiaries	Associació Milfulles Ernährungsrat Dortmund Und Region e.V. Ethnicon Metsovion Polytechnion, NTUA ILS Research Ggmbh Ivl Svenska Miljoeinstitutet Ab Lincoln University Mad Leap Cic, Leap Old-Continent Universitat de Girona University of Kent Varoskutatás (Metropolitan Research Institute) Kft

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PROJECT N. 10118226

Transformative food value systems reshaping resilient urban landscape

Deliverable information	
Deliverable n.	2.3
Work package n.	2
Deliverable title	Transformative Loop Methodology: Guidance for Application
Lead beneficiary	MRI
Participants	MRI, UNIBO
Main authors	Kata Kepes, Hanna Szemző, Noémi Annamária Vajdovich, Eve Florence Palmer
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Due date	31.08.2025
Document type	R
*Legend = **R –** Report // **DEM –** Demonstrator, pilot, prototype, plan designs // **DEC –** Websites, patents filing, press & media actions, videos, etc. // **DMP –** Data management plan // **OTHER –** Software, technical diagram, algorithms, models, etc.	

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HISTORY CHART

Issue	Date	Changed page(s)	Cause of change	Implemented by
V1				
V2				
V3				

VALIDATION CHART

No.	Action	Beneficiary	Date

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The current deliverable introduces a core concept of the REDESIGN project: The Transformative Loop Methodology (TLM). The TLM provides a structured yet flexible framework to foster knowledge exchange and network building within the REDESIGN Network (RED-N). Its dual purpose is to give members access to relevant information and feedback, while offering targeted support to the Living Labs to strengthen performance and integrate lessons from other initiatives. Additionally, it was designed to support knowledge exchange between all the different partners, who are members of the RED-N. This network (for details see D2.1) provides the community within which the TLM operates, in which actors of various backgrounds and aspirations within the food value chain are connected with the aim of building partnerships and facilitating dialogue to foster systemic change.

Grounded in Communities of Practice, Theory of Action Learning, and Boundary Theory, the TLM was developed in the first 7 months of the REDESIGN project through a member-driven needs assessment, including an online survey and a workshop. This process highlighted key challenges for participating organisations, such as funding and resource limitations, governance and coordination issues, stakeholder diversity, and community engagement. Members also expressed strong interest in experience exchange, shared principles, and inspiration without excessive administrative burden.

Following these learnings and using them as a point of departure, the TLM will facilitate collaboration between the RED-N members through regular online and in-person events, combining expert-led sessions with peer-learning formats such as “case clinics.” As the network grows, thematic clusters—Environmental/Sustainability, Aesthetics, Social/Togetherness, and Economic—will provide spaces for focused discussion and cross-sectoral learning. Direct peer-to-peer communication is supported by accessible tools, including a shared contact directory and a LinkedIn group.

Monitoring and evaluation are embedded in the methodology, with formal reviews at project milestones and continuous self-reflection to ensure adaptability. Key Performance Indicators track engagement, collaboration, and knowledge flow. As RED-N continues to expand, the TLM will serve as a dynamic framework for connecting actors, scaling impact, and advancing the transformation of urban food systems.

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INTRODUCTION

The Transformative Loop Methodology (TLM) is the methodology developed by the REDESIGN project for the purpose of operating the Redesign Network (RED-N). As such, the methodology is used to foster knowledge exchange and network building among a broad range of local stakeholders, engaged in the transformation of the local food value system. It seeks to connect various entities by creating spaces for dialogue and cooperation. Its main aim is twofold:

- To help all the RED-N members access relevant information and receive feedback on their next steps;
- Provide targeted support to the REDESIGN pilots (Living Labs) to increase performance growth, and incorporate the experiences of other initiatives.

In particular, it is foreseen that the methodology can help progress in the food system innovation sector, which is suffering from a lack of transferable and codified learning processes. Koopmans (2017) observes that urban food initiatives are often developed in isolation due to locally driven agendas and weak institutional connections. This limits coordination across cities and contributes to fragmentation in both scope and geographic reach. As a result, opportunities for scaling impact, sharing practices, and building cohesive food system strategies remain largely undeveloped.
The developed TLM acts as a bridge between practice and policy, to translate local experimentation and innovation into broader frameworks. It also guarantees that this collaboration is structured and effective to produce a long-term, scalable impact.

What is the transformative loop methodology

The TLM, as it will be described more in-depth later, has been developed using previous research, most importantly theories about Community of Practice, Theory of Action Perspective on Learning, and Boundary Theory. The combination of these theories and their embedding into the local food value system is the basis on which the TLM is founded. It is designed to support the incremental growth of the REDESIGN Network (RED-N), emphasising an organic, bottom-up dynamic, where participants provide feedback and share knowledge.

In this aspect, it is imperative to clearly distinguish the roles, functions, and outputs of the TLM and the REDESIGN Network, as they are complementary but fundamentally different. The RED-N can be described as the structure and community within which the TLM operates; it is a living network comprising a diverse set of actors, including Living Labs, inspirational cases, academic institutions, local governments, and NGOs. The Network's aims are centred around the connection of these partners, building partnerships and facilitating dialogue for systemic change. The platform, therefore, provides a place where collaboration, mutual support and innovation transfer can occur (For details see D2.1).

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On the other hand, the TLM is the framework structuring these interactions, how they take place and evolve with time. It outlines the core steps, tools and cycles which are required to collect, analyse and transfer the knowledge of the RED-N, so it is adaptable and actionable to a multitude of contexts. The TLM helps to identify what works, why it works, and how these factors can be transferred for future use. The duality can be explained as the RED-N being described as the 'hardware' of the project, whilst the TLM is the 'software'.

In the context of the TLM application, whilst the RED-N outlines operational rules for meetings, events and member engagement, the TLM focuses on how to design iterative learning cycles, how to document and assess outcomes, and how to facilitate mutual learning from the consortium. This will be via methodologies for optimising the knowledge exchange in reflective workshops, feedback loops and tools, such as the Food Value Framework (FVF), aiding to summarise the RED-N's experiences into replicable Transformative Pathways.

Overall, the methodology creates a framework where flexibility and responsiveness are key, and avoiding overly burdensome processes is important. Time efficiency is also a guiding principle—that the network should be accessible and engaging without becoming a drain on participants' limited capacities. It is foreseen that as engagement grows, the methodology will need to support exchanges of different kinds and scales, from one-on-one peer learning and mentoring to broader group discussions and thematic working groups.

The TLM will be used and refined in the project period, and the methodological review in month 18, as well as the RED-N's assessment in month 30 will provide an opportunity to improve it. While not available now, over a longer time-period a dedicated platform could support the TLM-induced mechanisms, including the ongoing interactions, and the sharing of tools and resources. This can help to achieve the aim that the RED-N aspires to become a trusted, low-threshold space for cross-sectoral learning and cooperation—where knowledge flows freely, new connections are made, and local food systems are transformed from the ground up.

Research behind the Transformative Loop Methodology

The TLM is grounded in three key theoretical foundations. The first is the concept of Communities of Practice (CoP), a term introduced by anthropologists Jean Lave and Etienne Wenger to describe a model of social learning. This concept has since been widely adopted in various domains such as business, government, organisational design, and education. In the social sector, building communities of practitioners is increasingly seen as essential for

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fostering peer-to-peer learning and collaboration, whether within local settings, across regions, or between regions (Wenger-Trayner & Wenger-Trayner, 2015).

CoPs are defined as groups of people who engage in collective learning within a shared domain of human endeavour. These communities require three core elements: a shared domain of interest or expertise that distinguishes their practice from others; a community that facilitates the exchange of information, mutual support, and joint activities; and a shared practice in which members actively contribute stories, experiences, tools, and other resources to create a common repertoire. Such communities support a wide range of activities, including problem-solving, sharing knowledge, reusing assets, coordinating efforts, building confidence, exploring new developments, and identifying skill gaps (Wenger-Trayner & Wenger-Trayner, 2015).

The second theoretical foundation of the TLM is the Theory of Action perspective on learning, developed by Chris Argyris and Donald Schön in the 1970s. Theories of Action conceptualises learning as the process of detecting and correcting errors. This theory highlights the importance of being open to disconfirmation, others challenging one's assumptions, and being held accountable in order to avoid distorting information. Such openness is essential for learning from mistakes and enabling continuous improvement (Clark, 2021).

The foundational ideas of single and double loop learning, originally coined by Argyris and Schön, help understand how errors are recognised and corrected. While single loop learning focuses on improving actions within existing systems by asking, "Are we doing things right?", double loop learning challenges underlying strategies by asking, "Are we doing the right things?". The theory was later complemented by other scholars by the concept of triple loop learning, which goes a step further as it questions the very values, beliefs, and purposes that shape an organisation's actions, essentially asking, "How do we know what is right?" Unlike the quicker adjustments of the first two loops, triple loop learning involves deep reflection and long-term transformation. It can lead to a redefinition of an organisation's culture, mission, and identity, requiring openness, self-awareness, and a willingness to challenge foundational assumptions (Simon Fraser University, n.d.).

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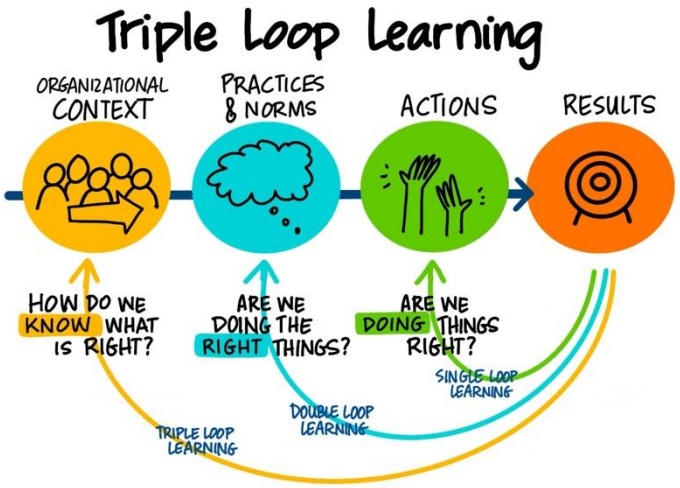

Figure 1: Triple Loop Learning. Source: Simon Fraser University. (n.d.).

TLM aims to integrate CoP with organisational learning by enabling the development of learning loops among network members. For example, consider Organisation A, a member of the RED-N, which struggles with low attendance at its community garden or public lectures.

Organisation B, another member, previously faced the same issue but successfully overcame it by identifying necessary changes. In doing so, Organisation B may have progressed through different learning loops. A single loop learning response might be to increase advertising to boost attendance. A double loop approach could involve questioning the relevance of the lecture themes and redesigning them to match audience interests. A triple loop learning process, however, would reflect more deeply: asking why the lectures are being held in the first place, and whether an alternative format—such as collaborative workshops—might better suit the community's needs and context. By sharing its experience, Organisation B enables Organisation A to benefit from its learning without needing to repeat the entire process. In this way, TLM supports the creation of shared learning loops between members, allowing them to learn from each other's insights and avoid duplicating challenges—building a dynamic, interconnected system of peer-based organisational learning.

The loop can also be used as a reflective tool to assess how well the TLM itself is functioning. For instance, if there is insufficient collaboration between RED-N members, the network can engage in a learning loop to explore why that is the case, what assumptions or behaviours might be limiting engagement, and what changes are needed—whether minor adjustments, strategic shifts, or deeper rethinking of the network's purpose and approach. This meta-application of the loop helps ensure that the TLM remains adaptive, relevant, and grounded in continuous learning.

Finally, for common knowledge production, the TLM builds on boundary theory. In order for organisations to learn from each other, effective cross-disciplinary communication is key, as

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well as a shared understanding of problems and solutions (Schröter et al., 2023). Boundary work has been understood in various ways in the literature, where different perspectives on what is reliable and useful knowledge can hinder communication and agreement of common definitions. Meaningful knowledge exchange would suffer the consequences of a boundary too 'impermeable'. At the same time, if too much slips through, then facts and opinions might get mixed.

Boundary work addresses the boundary between science and non-science, various sources of knowledge, knowledge and action, as well as between experts and decision-makers. This is especially relevant when many different stakeholders come together, such as academic and non-academic experts, policy-makers, and practitioners from different organisations like in the RED-N.

As Clark and colleagues (2016) report, effective boundary work has at least three key attributes

- Meaningful participation: Stakeholders from all sides of the boundary should meaningfully participate in agenda setting and knowledge production.
- Accountability in governance: Governance arrangements should ensure that the boundary work is accountable to relevant stakeholders.
- Creation of "boundary objects": These are jointly developed outputs—such as reports, models, maps, or standards—that can be interpreted in various ways by different groups while still retaining a consistent core meaning across those perspectives.

Basic elements of Boundary Work can illustrate how the RED-N comes alive with the TLM in Table 1.

Boundary element	Definition	Examples
Boundary organisations	Organisations that intermediate between actors from different spheres and involve the participation of actors from different sides of a boundary (Guston, 2001).	Consortium members of the REDESIGN project
Boundary settings	Settings or conditions in which people from different disciplines and spheres can collaborate (Mollinga, 2010).	Meetings and workshops
Boundary concepts	Concepts that help thinking and communicating complex issues across different scientific disciplines and societal spheres (Mollinga, 2010).	Transformative Value Systems
Boundary objects	Devices or methods that all involved people can work with although having a different view or interpretation of it (Star & Griesemer, 1989).	Transformative Value Framework

Table 1: Boundary work in the RED-N. Source: First two columns have been quoted from Schröter et al., 2023, p. 3.

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NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The basic concept behind the TLM is a reflective learning loop, where the different actors can exchange experiences and share knowledge on an equal footing, by choosing the best medium to do so. The creation of TLM is not self-serving: as explained above, it was designed to support the operation of the RED-N as well as the process of providing knowledge for the Living Labs. To translate these basic premises into practical actions, an initial needs assessment was carried out among the current RED-N members through a tailored questionnaire (reported in the Annexes). In a manner of speaking, the TLM was already employed, since this process meant creating the first boundary settings where the collaboration can happen to develop ideas and decide on how to collaborate later on, including, for instance, how the TLM within the RED-N should function exactly. This is key for ensuring that instead of assuming what organisations might need, we first go to the members and create the structure and knowledge together.

The questionnaire was devised to get an understanding of the member's areas of expertise, perspective on different elements of the project, as well as their hopes and needs. The first half of the questionnaire aimes to collect general information as well as more in-depth understanding of the RED-N members, including their main goals and history, social media platforms they use, areas of expertise, and main challenges and values. The second half focuses on how the network could support the RED-N members based on their needs, by asking why they joined, what would be interesting to them in terms of topics and formats and which other member organisations they are most interested in. Respondents are also asked to recommend organisations the RED-N could potentially recruit, if they have any in mind. At the point of this analysis, 8 responses were recorded and therefore, the analysis will focus on those, however, questionnaire is continuously circulated online.

As a second stage to build on the questionnaire a workshop was organised that served to get a clearer understanding of the needs, aspiration and wishes of the RED-N members. In the following, first the main findings from the questionnaire are listed, followed by an outline of the results of the workshop. The questionnaire itself is included in the deliverable in the Annex.

Results of the RED-N survey

Activities

The most important aspect to understand was the area of expertise and activities pursued by the various organisations. To support categorisation organisations could choose from several predefined categories, including Urban food growing and distribution, Policy and Governance,

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Communication and Dissemination. Importantly, almost all organisations selected more than one area of activity, showing significant overlaps and shared interests. This can potentially support collaboration between the RED-N members. Figure 2 illustrates the topics organisations are active in.

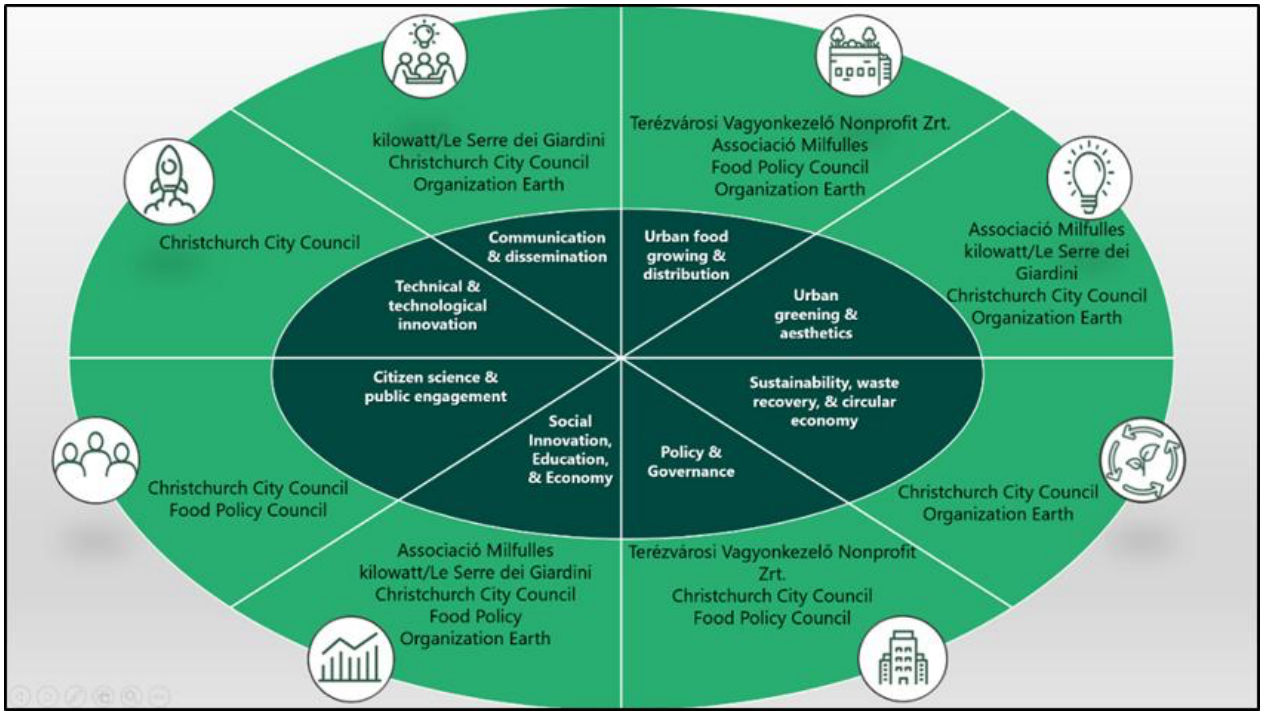

Figure 2: Example RED-N members' activities based on the survey (not exhaustive)

Main challenges to face

One key aspect to uncover regarded main challenges RED-N organisations face. The results show 3-4 clusters around which the challenges concentrate (3. Figure). The word cloud illustrates the survey responses to the question about the greatest challenges organisations face in achieving their main goals. The size of each expression reflects its approximate frequency: the smallest terms appeared only once, while "Underfunding" was mentioned five times, and "lack of human resources" appeared twice. The biggest issue seems to be that funding and financial sustainability, both of which are critical. Many organisations reported a lack of sustainable financing or general underfunding, often related to project-based structures. Related to this, the lack of human resources was also mentioned.

Another type of challenge concerned governance and coordination. This topic faces many challenges, such as organisational development, collaboration, systemic barriers, and community engagement. Another major difficulty comes from stakeholder diversity and conflicting interests. Related to the governance challenges, the difficulty of community

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engagement was also mentioned, which includes the issue of long-term commitment among volunteers and beneficiaries.

Figure 3: Main challenges faced by RED-N organisations based on the survey

Reason of membership and expectations from RED-N

The organisations gave a variety of reasons for joining RED-N, but several common themes appeared. Many hope to connect and exchange experiences with other members, especially the Living Labs, to learn from one another and build new partnerships. Some, like Canterbury Community Gardens Association, are looking for shared design principles to link different gardens and projects under a common vision. Others, like Kilowatt and MAD LEAP, mentioned the opportunity to create networks that could also support innovative funding or collaborative activities. Several organisations emphasised the desire for inspiration, support, and knowledge-sharing, without being overwhelmed by administrative demands.

Associació Milfulles, for example, stressed the importance of balanced, respectful cooperation. For Christchurch City Council, the motivation was linked to food system improvement, supporting research, and gaining insight into how other cities have developed food policy councils. Similarly, Food Policy Council Dortmund expressed a wish for practical solutions and shared learning from other partners. Finally, Organization Earth joined because RED-N's values align with their own, and they are looking forward to meaningful collaboration.

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How can the RED-N help its members?

Several questions focused on materialising the expectations and interests of the RED-N members.

Organisations expressed interest in a range of topics and opportunities within the RED-N. Sharing experiences and learning from others was a key priority for many, as well as learning about technologies, governance models, and business approaches. Policy discussions were another major theme. Organisations related to local governments were keen to explore the role of local governments in food system transformation, as well as learn from successful policies and large-scale food initiatives. There are also hopes that RED-N can act as a lobbying and advocacy tool, helping strengthen communication with city councils and other public bodies. Overall, members are looking for inspiration, exchange, tools, and shared practices that can support both local actions and broader policy change.

Regarding the exact formats, it seems that a mix of interactive and expert-led formats are the most popular. Almost all respondents mentioned internal workshops and bilateral meetings as valuable ways to exchange ideas and build connections in smaller, more focused settings. In addition, many expressed strong interest in online workshops and lectures with invited experts, which could provide inspiration, technical knowledge, and best practices from the field. Some also emphasised the importance of having a diversity of formats. Overall, the responses show a clear preference for a blended approach, combining peer-to-peer exchange with expert input in both live and interactive ways.

In line with the need for the peer-to-peer exchanges responses show that organisations are eager to learn from each other's experiences, strategies, and practical approaches. A common interest is economic sustainability, e.g. in connection with the need to explore ways to reduce long-term reliance on external funding. Many highlighted the importance of community engagement, learning about how others connect with communities and create long-term impact. The below diagram maps the possible peer-learning pathways to be explored in the RED-N.

Figure 4. was created from responses to the survey question about which organisation they would be willing to learn from and with whom they would first establish contact. It is important to note that the figure reflects only the opinions of the respondent organisations. The direction of arrows indicates the direction of interest: the starting point is always the organisation expressing interest, and the arrow points to the organisation they are interested in. The different colours represent the interests of each organisation. For example, Christchurch City Council is interested in the work of Tower Hamlets, Trophy Lab, and Organization Earth, and so forth.

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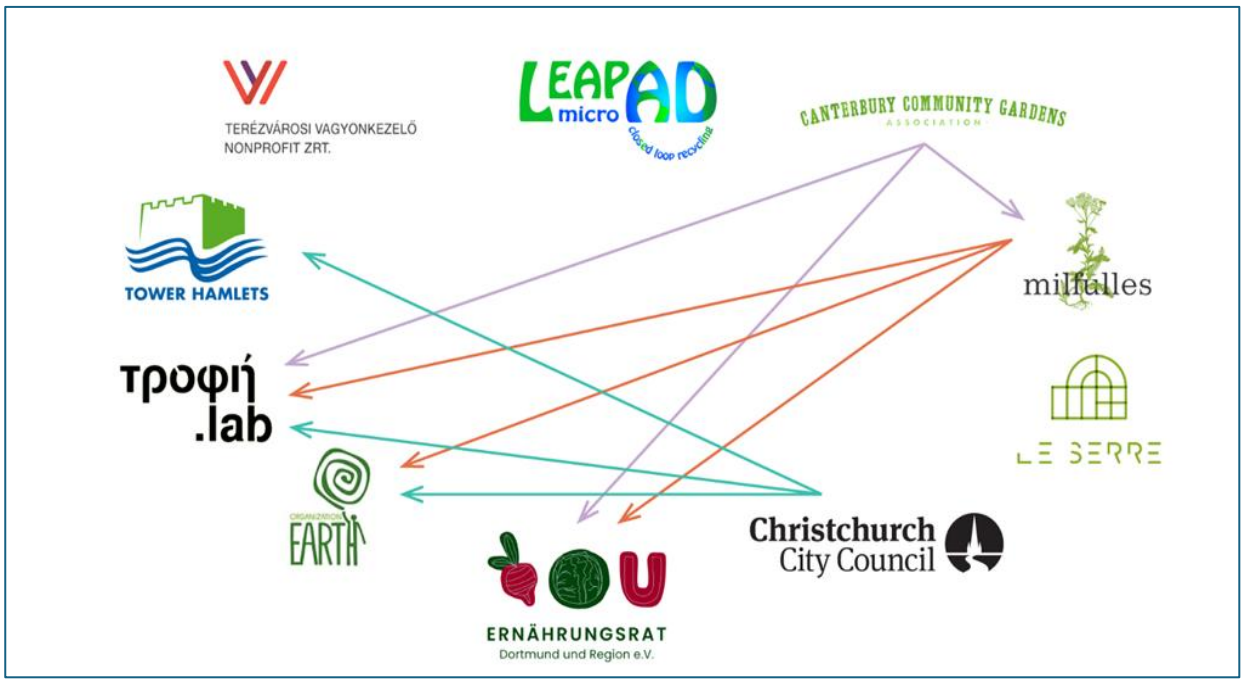

Figure 4: Interest in learning from each other by example RED-N members based on the survey

Summary of the workshop

Building on the findings from the questionnaire, the second method we used to define collaboration was the organisation of a workshop on July 2nd 2025, which served to have a better initial understanding of what topics would interest the RED-N members. The workshop aimed to ensure that future events of the RED-N are based on the members needs and ideas, whilst also acknowledging that this must be a continuous conversation during the whole lifespan of the network. This is key to developing an effective knowledge exchange using the TLM that will support the transformation of urban food systems on a local level and in an inclusive way. The main goal of the workshop was to agree on a set of topics for future activities of the network and opportunities for knowledge exchange in the next 6-8 months.

Topics of Interest

The results of the questionnaire formed the foundation of the workshop. Based on the challenges identified in the survey and the topics that organisations expressed interest in exploring at future events, we identified four main thematic groupings. These can serve as a pool of ideas to draw from in the future.

Funding	Finding stability and continuity in financially supporting the organisation

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	Need for augmenting with other products and services, learning business models General understanding of where the funding goes
Engagement	Engaging communities, creating networks, governance Ensuring long-term engagement of all stakeholders Resolve shortage of people, coordinating volunteers
Heterogeneity	Conflicts of interest between different stakeholders Representation - truly reach and involve all relevant groups Recognise cultural value and its potential for generating opportunities Understanding interdependencies and developing holistic solution
Policy	Understand policy directions and what the local government's role is Contributing towards providing evidence for supportive regulations Lobbying tool to give a new dimension to the usual dialogue with the city council and other authorities

Table 2: topics of the interest

While these topics were a good foundation for discussion, workshop participants raised very important additional topics that RED-N activity will need to target. These include exploring opportunities to connect with international green certifications such as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) or WELL, which is particularly relevant for the Trophy Lab team, who raised this topic in the workshop. Another key area highlighted was the need to foster cultural shifts — particularly around food and sustainability — as these are seen as fundamental to addressing the ecological crisis.

In addition, the importance of local government involvement in food-related initiatives was discussed. While councils are often key funders and facilitators, engaging a truly diverse range of communities remains a challenge. Many initiatives tend to attract those with more time and resources, while the people who might benefit most often remain underserved. From a policy and governance perspective, there is a need to better understand how organisations interact with local government, and what coordination exists, or could exist, across sectors to improve food resilience and security. Questions were also raised around the structure and activity of local Food Policy Councils, and how different stakeholders, including local authorities, are involved in shaping and supporting such frameworks.

The conversation also brought forward essential reflections on how small, underfunded volunteer-led organisations, which often have no prior research engagement, can meaningfully participate in co-creating knowledge and networks. There is a strong need to design inclusive methodologies that ensure these communities have agency in shaping the network and knowledge-building process. Questions were raised about how to support these groups in engaging with academic and design processes, including exploring new, shared

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design methodologies and how these might influence interactions with urban planners. This highlights a broader concern around capacity-building and equitable participation for community-based organisations in both research and urban development dialogues.

APPLYING THE TRANSFORMATIVE LOOP METHODOLOGY

Incorporating the theory, and findings from the survey and the workshop, a framework for the Transformative Loop Methodology was created that aims to create the context for knowledge sharing.

Events

The most important platform for the knowledge exchange and mutual learning is the series of RED-N events. As presented in D2.1, the network's target is 3 online and 1 in-person meetings a year, meaning approximately one meeting every 3 months. While D2.1 explains the general structure of the RED-N, the TLM complements that with methods and tools that enhance the collaboration.

Through the TLM, a variety of event types have been developed in the RED-N. During both online and in-person meetings, organisers can select activity types based on necessity and the needs of the members.

1. Needs assessment:

As a first step, the TLM includes creating settings for needs assessment. Examples are the surveys and workshop mentioned above, however, a constant monitoring of what the members are interested in is developed using a website-based voting system. Both the voting system and the survey/workshop incorporates gathering and keeping track of topics that are of interest through documents managed by the coordinator with the help of the consortium members, ensuring that no ideas are missed.

2. Learning from experts:

Based on the findings of the survey and the workshop, RED-N members wish to learn new methodologies, technologies, and tools that will promote their initiatives. For that reason, the RED-N will invite experts to give presentations, lead workshops, and facilitate hands-on sessions. These experts will share their knowledge, best practices, and practical experiences with the network. Through these engagements, RED-N members will gain valuable insights

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and skills that they can directly apply to their projects and local contexts, fostering innovation and strengthening their initiatives.

3. Sharing experiences:

As RED-N members explained in both the survey and workshop, they would like to learn about each other's experiences. In order to do that in the most effective way, so-called case clinics will be organised based on the topics identified during needs assessment. On the one hand, case clinics provide the opportunity for one initiative to present its functioning, main goals, main challenges and main successes, while also allowing that organisation to gain relevant feedback. On the other hand, for the RED-N members participating, case clinics offer a structured way of gaining in-depth insights into one organisation. Case clinics are meant to create the context for collaboration where loops can evolve as organisations learn about and from each other's challenges and successes, creating a Community of Practice.
Before each case clinic, organisations will receive a form for their own benefit, which will encourage them to identify their objectives and desired outcomes. The form could include prompts such as:

- For the presenting organisation:
  - Please identify a success story, where you managed to overcome a difficulty
  - What aspects of your initiative would you like to present?
  - Are there specific ideas or practices you're seeking feedback on?
  - What kinds of input or suggestions would be most helpful for you?
  - What do you hope others will take away from your presentation?
- For participating organisations:
  - What specific challenges related to this topic are you currently facing?
  - What would you like to learn from the presenting organisation?
  - What questions do you have that could help you apply similar practices in your own context?
  - What insights are you hoping to gain from the discussion with peers?

4. Clusters

As the network grows, clusters will be created, allowing for simultaneous discussions in different rooms or breakout rooms in case of online meetings. So far, four broad clusters have been foreseen – as explained in D2.1 (see page 17 of D2.1). These clusters intersect the three pillars of sustainable development (economy, social, environmental) with the principles of the New European Bauhaus (beautiful, sustainable, together). Additionally, they also align with the issues addressed within partner organizations, such as the FOOD2030 network. Based on these considerations, the topics can include – as explained in D2.1:

1) Environmental /Sustainability cluster

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- Reducing food loss and waste across the food value chain.
- Maximizing urban food initiatives' impact through shortening the food value chain.
- Use of technology and IoT tools in urban food production.
- Promoting plant-based diets through urban food system initiatives.

2) Aesthetics cluster

- The role of urban food systems to improve cities' cultural ecosystem services and improve the quality of public spaces.
- The role of urban agriculture practices in reviving abandoned, underused, or vacant spaces.
- Involving artistic collaborations within urban food initiatives.

3) Social cluster/Togetherness cluster

- Fostering the social dimension of urban and peri-urban agriculture.
- Involving local and vulnerable communities.
- Determining the non-monetary value of urban food systems.
- Involving artists and organizing events to maximize engagement within the local community.
- Contributing to citizen-driven and city-led food system transformation.

4) Economic cluster

- Evaluating local policies' contribution to maximizing the distribution of urban-produced food.
- Developing sustainable organizational and business models for urban and peri-urban agriculture initiatives.

Inputs from the workshop and the questionnaire have also helped to define further focus areas. Additionally, examples of real time reacting to topics raised was visible during the workshop:

The RED-N through the TLM aims to be a responsive, inclusive, and evolving platform, and the workshop discussions have clearly identified several priority areas that the network will address through targeted activities and network development. These areas all fall under the larger clusters mentioned above.

Facilitating Access to Funding Opportunities - Economic cluster

In direct response to concerns about funding, especially from small and underfunded community organisations, there are plans to host dedicated sessions focusing on how to access European and other funding streams. These meetings would potentially include expert guidance on forming consortia, navigating application processes, and understanding the latest

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funding calls. RED-N will also create pathways for members to connect with broader funding networks, including the European Commission, helping participants scale their initiatives.

Supporting Green Certification Efforts – Environmental/Sustainability cluster

Following the interest expressed in environmental standards like LEED or WELL, RED-N plans to organise a dedicated session exploring green certification processes. This will aim to demystify the steps required for certification, share case studies, and offer practical guidance on implementation —particularly relevant for urban projects like those led by the Trophy Lab and others aiming for institutional sustainability recognition.

Emphasising Cultural Shifts and Education – Social cluster

The importance of cultural transformation, particularly in relation to food and sustainability, was strongly acknowledged. Collaboration between labs and initiatives already active in this area, such as the Dortmund Lab, will be facilitated through the TLM. Activities such as transdisciplinary summer schools and collaborations between artists and scientists will be supported and amplified.

Strengthening Community Engagement and Local Government Relations – Social cluster

Insights from Christchurch City Council highlighted the challenges of inclusivity in food initiatives and the complex role local governments play. RED-N will facilitate discussions on how organisations can more effectively interact with local councils, co-develop policies, and align with city-level food strategies. Communication between RED-N local governments (e.g. Christchurch and Tower Hamlets Borough) will also be promoted.

Elevating the Role and Capacity of Grassroots Organisations – Social cluster

The Canterbury Community Gardens Association raised critical concerns about the capacity of small volunteer-run organisations to engage in research and policy. RED-N acknowledges the importance of co-creating knowledge with grassroots actors ensuring their agency and will dedicate tailored sessions and resources to this issue. This includes exploring inclusive design methodologies and addressing challenges of engagement, sustainability, and scalability. RED-N is committed to building mechanisms where community gardens and similar groups can influence urban planning and food policy discussions meaningfully.

As mentioned earlier, clusters will really start to show their value once the RED-N has more members. For that reason, it is important to note that the RED-N is continuously seeking to recruit new organisations. The network's growth is essential, not only to ensure events have good turnout but also because a larger network enriches the collective knowledge pool. The RED-N has already been growing and will keep doing so through both active and passive

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snowball methods. In practice, this means that current members recruit organisations they see as valuable additions, while other organisations may learn about the RED-N through existing members and request to join. Depending on how the network develops, more proactive recruitment strategies may also be introduced in the future.

5. Utilising the Food Value Framework

The FVF, as mentioned above, is understood as a boundary object in the TLM, which is a device or method that can be interpreted in various ways by different groups while still maintaining a consistent core meaning across those perspectives, thus facilitating effective cross-disciplinary communication and common knowledge production. The FVF, by categorising values into four overarching dimensions (environmental, societal, health, and personal) can play a significant role in helping initiatives think about their values in a structured way and generate collective knowledge. Workshops would be able to facilitate such a process by focusing on these value groupings and promote idea exchange on what values the RED-N members attach to their initiatives, including the values of the local community and other stakeholders. These discussions would largely help the Living Labs' work in effectively transforming Food Value Systems.

Communication

While the events will be centrally organised, direct communication between the RED-N members will be facilitated as part of the TLM, which strongly supports peer-to-peer communication. This decentralised communication flow is viewed essential to allow valuable exchange of practices and ideas between members, as well as to create a useful trajectory for pilots to discern appropriate information for their own use.

To enable seamless communication between the partners an easy-to-use Excel table is shared between all member organisations, including the organisations' name, basic description and contact info. Furthermore, a dedicated LinkedIn group is established to support knowledge exchange.

The choice of communication channels reflects the project's conviction that simple, cheap and popular methods should be employed, that do not require any special knowledge or activities from the members. They should be tools RED-N members use daily anyway, and based on the survey results, 7 organisations use LinkedIn. The choice of communication tools, however, is not limited, and there is a change that these platforms are not easily accessible especially for small and underfunded organisations. Therefore, just like with the topics to discuss and events to organise, RED-N, supported by the TLM, is open to feedback and embraces new suggestions from its members on additional, dynamic communication channels.

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Within all communication activities a particular focus will be given to the three Living Labs. Some RED-N members are defined as Inspirational Cases, foreseen to provide ideas to the Living Labs or help them with advice. As a result, communication between the Living Labs and these cases will be facilitated directly by the responsible project partners. Until month 12 this will be a dialogue, whereas after that, certain deliverables (D4.1 about the network mapping and D2.5 and D2.6 on the inspirational cases themselves) will help to steer this conversation.

Monitoring and evaluation

The TLM incorporates a robust approach to monitoring and evaluation to ensure its effectiveness, adaptability, and continuous improvement.

Formal Review and Self-Reflection

Scheduled methodological reviews will ensure that the TLM goes through refinement throughout the project period. These will include the deliverables such as D2.4 'Review of the Transformative Loop methodology' in month 18 and D2.2 'Final Assessment of the RED-N' in month 30. These planned checkpoints offer crucial opportunities to improve and adapt the methodology.

Beyond formal assessments, the TLM itself is designed to serve as a reflective tool to evaluate its own functionality and the effectiveness of collaboration within the RED-N. This involves engaging in learning loops, a concept central to the TLM's theoretical foundation. As mentioned above, if, for example, collaboration among RED-N members is insufficient, the network can use this learning loop process to explore the underlying reasons, challenge assumptions, and determine necessary adjustments. These adjustments could range from minor modifications to strategic shifts or even a deeper re-evaluation of the network's purpose and approach. This meta-application of the loop ensures that the TLM remains adaptive, relevant, and continuously learning.

Evaluating if the TLM achieves its aims is key. This includes assessing if the TLM successfully helps all RED-N members access relevant information and receive feedback on their next steps, and if it provides targeted support to the REDESIGN pilots (Living Labs) to increase performance growth and incorporate experiences from other initiatives. Below are listed example areas the TLM will monitor, as well as evaluate.

Efficacy of knowledge exchange and network building: It is crucial to assess the extent to which the TLM genuinely fosters knowledge exchange and strengthens network building among the

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diverse local stakeholders, including Living Labs, inspirational cases, academic institutions, local governments, and NGOs.

Bridging practice and policy: The TLM aims to monitor the successful translation of local experimentation and innovation into broader frameworks and policies.
Addressing member challenges: Tracking whether the TLM's activities, such as dedicated sessions on funding access, green certification, cultural shifts, community engagement, and supporting grassroots organisations, are effectively addressing the main challenges identified by RED-N members.

Meeting member expectations: Regularly evaluating whether RED-N activities, facilitated by the TLM, are fulfilling members' stated reasons for joining, such as connecting with others, learning new methodologies, building partnerships, and receiving inspiration and support.
Effectiveness of specific activity types: Assessing the impact and perceived value of different event formats, including expert lectures, case clinics, online workshops, and bilateral meetings, in fostering learning and collaboration.

Boundary work effectiveness: Monitoring the meaningful participation of all stakeholders, the accountability in governance, and the successful creation of "boundary objects" like the Food Value Framework, which are crucial for common knowledge production across diverse groups.

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and Monitoring Tools

To measure the areas mentioned above, and to systematically track progress and assess the impact of the TLM and RED-N, several Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and monitoring tools have been identified.
The KPI types include:

- Network engagement metrics: Monitoring activity on communication platforms such as LinkedIn, which is considered a most important tool, by tracking the number of posts from different members, as well as the usage of Sharepoint.
- Interaction and attendance: Quantifying the number of interactions between the pilots and other stakeholders, the number of events organised, and the attendance figures for these events.
- Knowledge flow and peer learning: Assessing the extent to which RED-N members follow each other's work and if they received the desired assistance on specific topics.

KPI values are not set specifically for the RED-N, but will be monitored in the framework of the impact indicators created in the proposal stage of the REDESIGN project.
The collection methods will include:

- Collecting event-specific feedback: Collecting feedback at the end of case clinics and workshops to ascertain whether participants' expectations were met and if they

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received the desired help regarding specific topics.
Organisations will be asked to revisit for reflection the form they received before case clinics to identify objectives and desired outcomes.

- Finding deliverable linkages: Tracking how monitoring tools contribute to the M18 and M30 deliverables, clarifying who is responsible for specific monitoring activities.
- Searching for qualitative feedback: Conducting interviews with different stakeholders and deploying follow-up questionnaires in addition to post-event satisfaction surveys.

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ANNEX

Members of the RED-N at the current stage

Below is a concise summary of activities the inspirational cases, the living labs, and new members of the RED-N are pursuing. The information was extracted from the communication with the labs and the cases, as well as the questionnaire they filled out. Therefore, this list is not exhaustive as only those are included who filled out the questionnaire at the time of writing this report.

CANTERBURY COMMUNITY GARDENS ASSOCIATION – Inspirational case

The Canterbury Community Gardens Association (CCGA) was established in 2000- 2001 from their local soil and health organisation, beautification society. It formed as a response to their local council funding roles that had little community input the Association formed in response to these roles. Canterbury Community Gardens Association explores spatial and social connectivity of urban community gardens in low-income urban neighbourhoods in Christchurch. Aims to create stronger citizen connection to food, include urban food production as part of urban design, and connect food to local cultural values. The CCGA aims to support the establishment of new and emerging gardens with resources and organisational knowledge. Community gardens have taken on huge variety of forms from vegetable gardens in existing parts to stand along urban farms or community rose gardens or neighbourhood gardens to school gardens.

FPC - DORTMUND FOOD POLICY COUNCIL – Living Lab

The Food Policy Council Dortmund and Region (FCP) promotes access to healthy food for all city residents—regardless of income, education, or place of residence. It works to shape Dortmund's food system and supports a fair and ecological transformation of food and agriculture. Founded in March 2022 as a small initiative, the association has been growing steadily ever since. Its members come from diverse backgrounds, including agriculture, food processing, marketing, food rescue, urban gardening, education, counselling, and research. FCP operates independently from the city council and is largely volunteer-driven. It advocates for change from the bottom up, mobilizing civil society to push for ecological, fair, and healthy food policies at the local and regional level. Their diverse network brings multiple perspectives to the table—because only together can meaningful transformation be achieved. They also contribute to state and national food council networks in Germany, helping to shape food system transformation at higher political levels. FCP envisions a future where fair wages, environmental sustainability, and access to good food for all are the norm—not the exception.

HORT ECOSOLIDARI (UNIVERSITY OF GIRONA) – Inspirational case

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The Hort Ecosolidari UdG is a social reintegration project aimed at users of the La Sopa shelter in Girona, where UdG students also participate and receive socio-environmental learning. The aim is to establish a circular food system based on agroecological principles and socio-material circularity. In this way, the objective is twofold: on the one hand, to provide food products to La Sopa and, on the other, to launch a social reintegration programme that will benefit the centre's users themselves through organic farming and learning in the management and production of urban gardens. For these tasks, La Sopa users receive support from UdG students who participate in the Solidarity Activities programme in the Volunteering area, who will also benefit from this learning.

ASSOCIACIÓ MILFULLES – Living Lab

Milfulles Association was founded in 2020, emerging from a group of people interested in agroecology who eventually formed an organization supporting the agroecological transition in the orchard and woodland areas of Salt and Girona. Over the past five years, the association has developed four main lines of action in this territory: Researching natural and cultural heritage; Environmental education and awareness; Strengthening community-based management; and Agroecological production. The goal has been to highlight the socio-environmental benefits of caring for the territory. Over time, Milfulles has become a key point of connection between local gardeners, the municipality of Salt, and various community groups. They have helped bring new value to a territory that holds significant ecological, social, economic, and public health importance. They can attach the presentation they prepared for the Bologna kick-off meeting, where they shared Milfulles' principles, activities, and achievements.

HERITAGE MARKET HALLS IN BUDAPEST – Inspirational case

Built around the time when Budapest became a metropolis, the market halls are managed by different authorities overseen by district or city level municipalities. The markets have undergone different development trajectories but are increasingly losing their original functions. Yet, they are crucial actors, who can support the transformation of the local food system. The Hunyadi Square Market Hall is a good case in point. Managed by the municipally owned company (special Terézvárosi Vagyonkezelő Nonprofit Zrt.) it is located in the sixth district, Terézváros. Today, just like in the past, the local market serves as a community space that connects generations. In the early 2000s, the rise of the "farm-to-table" concept and the emergence of a younger, more conscious generation of shoppers helped sustain local markets and even sparked the creation of new ones, all in the spirit of sustainability. The current transformation – it is undergoing internal restructuration – is carried out to create a multi-functional environment adequate to serve the new requirements and support the transformations.

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KILOWATT – Inspirational case

Kilowatt is a workers' cooperative active in social innovation, culture and art, communication, urban regeneration, education, and sustainable food. It operates within the regenerated space of Le Serre dei Giardini, a hub for cultural activities and experimentation. This location is central to their impact-driven mission. They are a hybrid organization: a cooperative that fully owns a limited liability company, ensuring that any profits are reinvested for social benefit. Kilowatt employs 42 people on permanent contracts and, in 2024, had a subscribed and paid-up share capital of €770,898, including impact venture funds. Their work is organized around the impact, innovation & communication; cultural production & regeneration; education; and also food & beverage. Kilowatt also acts as a think tank, having transformed the former municipal greenhouses into a vibrant community space. Activities hosted include coworking, a nursery, the Kw Summer festival, the gARTen community garden, an ethical purchasing group (GAS), and event programming in the iconic Lion Cage.

MAD LEAP CIC – Living Lab

MAD LEAP is a UK-based SME focusing on circular approach to food, biowaste and bioenergy in cities, and it established in the estate a circular bioeconomy small pilot with educational activities to demonstrate to residents the value of food waste, local food waste collection and recycling, and food growing raised beds and a hydroponic frame using nutrients from the food waste. The goal is to involve communities, institutions and businesses in climate action while creating green training, employment and educational opportunities. By processing waste where it is generated and using the by-products to grow food for local consumption, they can decentralise and decarbonise the way they manage their bioresources and complement centralised services by increasing processing capacity, demonstrating the value of food waste to help shift behaviour towards recycling more and wasting less. The aim is to see every neighbourhood adopting this approach, giving people the tools to make a difference and address the climate emergency at a local level, while supporting urban agriculture and access to healthy, seasonal food.

OLD TOWN MARKET, BRATISLAVA – New member

The Stará Tržnica (Old Market Hall) is a historic building located in the centre of Bratislava. After years of unsuccessful attempts by the municipality to keep the market alive, the building eventually closed down. Years later, the market hall reopened following a redevelopment plan proposed by the Alianca Stará Tržnica (Old Market Hall Alliance). This plan combines a food market on Saturdays with cultural events on other days, as well as incorporating two cafés, a grocery shop, a cooking school, and a soda water manufacturer. This approach enables the organisation to manage the building in an economically sustainable way while gradually renovating it, creating a new event venue and meeting space in the heart of the city. The redevelopment has also brought new life to the surrounding neighbourhood, attracting both

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locals and tourists. Through partnerships with civic and cultural organisations, the venue now regularly hosts concerts, festivals, workshops, and community gatherings. By blending commercial, cultural, and community functions, the Old Market Hall has become a model for the adaptive reuse of public buildings.

ORGANIZATION EARTH – Inspirational case

Organization Earth is an internationally recognized non-profit, founded in 2010 in Greece. Education is in the centre of their programs, like "Little Farmers in the City" teach children sustainable cultivation methods and respect for natural resources. Adults take part in workshops on urban farming, composting, herbalism, and circular living and vulnerable groups are also supported by the organisation. In refugee accommodation centres, they implement social inclusion programs through sports and environmental activities that promote mental well-being and connection to nature. Through Corporate Social Responsibility and team-building initiatives, they foster collaboration and the development of green skills in the workplace. In Athens, they have already created 25 pocket parks, planted over 13,000 trees and plants, and added 9,400 m^2 of green space. One of their flagship projects is the Social Organic Garden in Petroupoli — a former abandoned area transformed into a cultivation and education space where over 40 families grow their own food. At the Center of the Earth, located on the historic Queen's Tower estate in Ilion, they offer experiential environmental education programs approved by the Ministry of Education, along with community events such as Collective Kitchen and Sundays at the Center of the Earth. They focus on promoting nature-based solutions for climate-neutral and inclusive cities — including pocket parks, urban forests, community gardens, and green roofs — while also implementing development programs for vulnerable social groups.

TROPHYLAB – New member

Trofý.Lab is an urban farming initiative in Athens, Greece dedicated to sustainable food systems and circular design. With expertise in regenerative agriculture, permaculture, and short food supply chains, Trofý.Lab develops innovative solutions that promote green infrastructure and community engagement. They explore the Journey of Food, from farm to fork designing and implement agronomic, ergonomic, digital, and technological solutions to support urban food systems. They started exploring in 2020, as a multi-disciplinary team, the full spectrum of Urban Food Systems, working with soil & urban eco-systems regeneration via urban farming installations, open-access digital tools for the Agrifood network and community engagement activities on consumer awareness & behaviour. A moment of revelation for the founder of the team, has been when while working at a small agroecological coop. Being a for-profit entity, this activity provided - and still does - essential organic income/revenue, substantial to carry out R&D and further capacity building through field visits/studies/work, permaculture seminars and other relevant activities. The next milestone that they are aiming

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for, is to set up their own prototype urban farm / food hub, intended to serve both as a cash-crop far and as a proof of concept to support the case of self-reliance for urban food systems; further to it, as a community & capacity building hub for individuals or teams that wish to build their own food production model within the city.

Municipal members of the RED-N

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

Christchurch City Council is involved in several actions related to climate change. The city has a separate Climate Action Plan aiming for zero carbon emissions and suitable conditions for growing a wide range of fruits, nuts, herbs, and vegetables. The city is also called the Garden City because of its many parks and green spaces managed by the Council. These include Community Gardens, School Gardens, food foraging areas, edible parks, Farmers' Markets, and — last but not least — a dedicated Council Food Resilience Policy. The Christchurch City Council works together with the community and other partners to improve the local food system, recognizing its benefits for people, the economy, and the environment. One of these partners is the Food Resilience Network. They have helped develop guides recommending plant varieties that grow well in local conditions. Many of these are heritage types known for their strong performance and good taste. The goal of the project is to identify key lessons that can be useful for other communities trying to create more sustainable urban food systems engaging a diversity of local people. The case study will explore the advantages of a local circular food system, related policy and funding mechanisms, and how they help inform, support, and involve people from diverse backgrounds.

TOWER HAMLETS BOROUGH IN LONDON

The Tower Hamlets Borough promotes local urban food systems through free school meals, healthier food policies, food aid partnerships, and over 36 community growing spaces producing 15+ tonnes of fresh produce, earning a Leadership Award for its cross-sector commitment to sustainable, accessible, and nutritious food. Among other things, the organisation primarily leads projects through which new shops, community buildings, public spaces, infrastructure developments, and homes are constructed. One third of these homes will be affordable housing, including 400 social rent homes suitable for larger families."

Questionnaire

The below questionnaire, with a mix of multiple choice and open-ended questions, was devised to map the needs and expectations of the RED-N members, with the aim to tailor the operation of the RED-N and the supporting TLM in a supportive way.

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1. What is the name of your organization?
2. Please tell us about your organisation's main goals and history—for example, when it was established, the key issues it aimed to address, and its main challenges and successes. Please write us longer texts (3-4 paragraphs, but it can be longer as well) – this will really help our work.
3. Do you use any platforms for information sharing that you would be happy to share with us?
    - YouTube
    - LinkedIn
    - Facebook
    - TikTok
    - Instagram
    - Other
4. Could you please share with us the links to your media profiles?
5. In which of the following areas is your organisation active?
    - Urban food growing & distribution
    - Urban greening & aesthetics
    - Sustainability, waste recovery, and circular economy
    - Policy & Governance
    - Social Innovation, Education, and Economy (school youth, and vulnerable communities)
    - Citizen science & public engagement
    - Technical & technological innovation (digital technology, IoT, data collection, and digital tools)
    - Communication & dissemination
6. What are the main challenges your organisation currently faces? Your insights on the challenges your organisation faces are incredibly valuable to us. The more detail you can provide, the better we'll be able to understand your specific context and needs. This helps us design tools, platforms, and learning opportunities that are not only relevant but genuinely useful for members of the RED-N. Thank you for taking the time to share your experiences with us — it really makes a difference.

7. What are the elements that distinguish your project, which may be considered beneficial (i.e. values) by those involved in and reached by your project's activities in terms of:
    - Health
    - Society
    - Environment

    Please describe them in a few sentences

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8. Are you aware of the New European Bauhaus (NEB) Compass? If so, please let us know what comes to your mind about it.
9. If you have any ideas about the NEB Compass: are there aspects that you find important for your organisation?
10. Why did you join Redesign Network (RED-N) and what do you expect from RED-N?
11. What would interest you from the RED-N: please give us examples. E.g: focus on social inclusion; focus on local engagement; experience sharing with the other members – based on introducing certain cases in-depth; policy discussions; financing advice; Please explain your interests.
12. In what formats do you see the RED-N network working? Please provide other suggestions as well
    - Online workshop with an invited expert
    - Online lecture by an invited expert
    - Bilateral meetings
    - Internal workshops
13. Which aspects of organisations similar to yours within the RED-N would you be interested in learning more about? If you came to the kick-off meeting in Bologna in March 2025, feel free to give concrete examples based on the organisations that were present there. Please see attached to the email a document with all initiatives and their brief descriptions
14. Do you see a commonality with the other projects? If yes, what is it? Please explain. In the email you received redirecting you to these Forms, there is a document with all initiatives and their brief descriptions.
15. 15. Do you want to recommend to the network other initiatives that might help increasing the sharing values of the RED-N and would also benefit from being included in such a Network? If yes, please provide names and links to the organization(s) you wish to recommend and their websites

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Additional results of the questionnaire

Supplementing the results already included in the text, below a few additional results from the questionnaire are listed, which will be used in the course of planning the programmes and engagement types within the RED-N.

Getting in touch

Websites and social media platforms will be used to encourage participation and disseminate news about the RED-N.

Organisation name	Facebook	LinkedIn	Instagram	Website
Terézvárosi Vagyonkezelő Nonprofit Zrt.	A Hunyadi		@ahunyadi_piac	-
MAD LEAP CIC	MAD LEAP - Closed Loop Recycling	SOURCE Foods by MAD LEAP CIC	@sourcefoodsbymadleap	-
Canterbury Community Gardens Association	Canterbury Community Gardens Association	-	-	-
Associació Milfulles	-	-	@lesmilfulles	https://milfulles.cat/
kilowatt/Le Serre dei Giardini	-	-	-	www.kilowatt.bo.it www.leserredeigiardini.it www.serramadre.art
Christchurch City Council	Christchurch City Council	-	@christchurchcc	https://www.ccc.govt.nz/
Food Policy Council / Ernährungsrat Dortmund und Region e.V.	-	Ernährungsrat Dortmund und Region e.V.	@ernaehrungsrat_dortmund	https://ernaehrungsrat-dortmund.de/
Organization Earth	Οργάνωση Γη- Organization Earth	Organization Earth - Οργάνωση ΓΗ	@organizationearth_gr	organizationearth.org

Table 3: Contact details.

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Recommendations for the RED-N

RED-N partners also shared ideas about whom to contact to expand the RED-N.

TABLE EXAMPLE	DATE
Terézvárosi Vagyonkezelő Nonprofit Zrt.	-
MAD LEAP CIC	-
Canterbury Community Gardens Association	tiffany@oanz.org
Associació Milfulles	-
Kilowatt/Le Serre dei Giardini	-
Christchurch City Council	Garden to Table Food Together School lunches (Ka Ora, Ka Ako) Enviroschools Para Kore
Food Policy Council / Ernährungsrat Dortmund und Region e.V.	Gruenbau
Organization Earth	-

Table 4: Recommendations.

Platforms used for information sharing

The organisations shared information about their platform use. Almost 90% of them used Instagram, while five out of eight were also active on LinkedIn and Facebook. Only two organisations indicated that they use their websites for sharing information, and none of them used TikTok or YouTube.

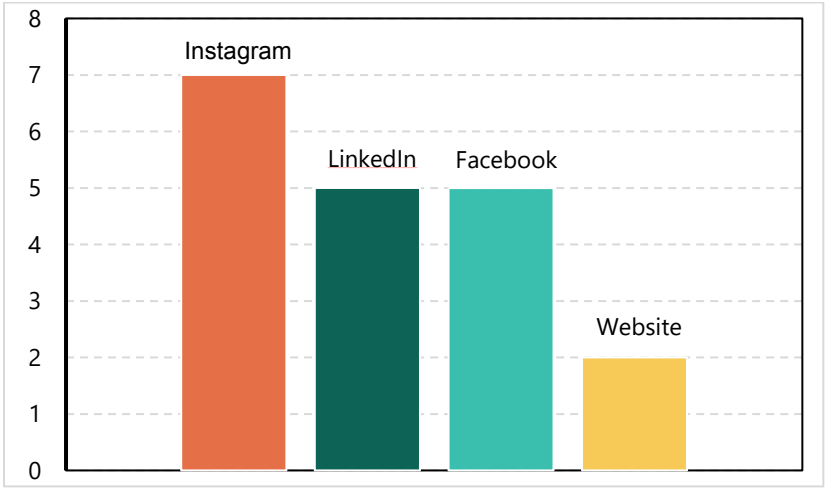

Figure 5: Used platforms by organisations for information sharing.

Awareness and important aspects of the NEB compass

The questionnaire responses from the organisations showed several common topics. Many mentioned sustainability and climate action as important. They talked about reducing

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emissions, adapting to climate change, and making communities stronger. Beauty and aesthetics were also highlighted, not just for looks, but as a way to connect nature with people. Inclusion and community came up often, with a focus on youth, multiculturalism, equity, and doing things together, like gardening. Several answers spoke about the need for interdisciplinary work, where different fields and viewpoints come together to solve problems. Some mentioned economic aspects, but felt they were not very visible —this was seen as a missed chance. There was also a strong interest in urban gardening and green spaces, especially to promote gardening skills and bring people together. Finally, many pointed out the need for better awareness, tools, and guidance, though some weren't sure what the most important focus should be. One answer also mentioned the Global Field project, showing interest in international cooperation.

Sharing issues with other projects

Several organisations identified common ground with other projects in the RED-N network. A shared focus is the educational role of urban food growing, as highlighted by MAD LEAP, which connects with projects like the Dortmund Living Lab and New Zealand composting initiatives. Collaboration between diverse groups was seen as a key strength by the Canterbury Community Gardens Association, particularly in projects like Organisation Earth and Tower Hamlets, where cross-sector cooperation is central. Associació Milfulles noted strong links with initiatives following an agroecological approach, pointing to the broader European agroecology movement and also kilowatt/Le Serre dei Giardini. From a policy perspective, Christchurch City Council and Dortmund Food Policy Council both saw overlaps in how local government or community-led bodies can support food systems transformation, even if their roles differ. Organization Earth pointed to shared visions, goals, and values across the network as the main common thread. Overall, the responses reflect a shared commitment to sustainability, education, local food systems, and inclusive collaboration, even if each organization's method or scale is different.

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